THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

SCOTLAND;

Conveened at *Edinburgh*, the 24th Day of *May*, 1764.

Collected and extracted from the Records by the Clerk thereof.

EDINBURGH,

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Begun at *Edinburgh*, the 24th Day of *May* 1764, and concluded the 4th Day of *June* said Year.

I.

The King's Commission to *John* Earl of *Glasgow* produced, and ordered to be recorded.

Edinburgh, 24th May, 1764.

THE General Assembly of this National Church being conveened and constituted, there was produced to them, by the Right Honourable JOHN Earl of GLASGOW, the King's Commission, sealed with the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in *Scotland*, in Place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and constituting him his Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative of this Assembly; which Commission was publickly read, with all

all due Honour and Reſpect, and ordered to be recorded in the Books of Aſſembly. The Tenor whereof follows:

" GEORGIUS, Dei Gratia, *Magnæ Britanniæ, Fran-*
" *ciæ*, et *Hiberniæ* Rex, fidei defenſor, omnibus probis
" hominibus, ad quos præſentes literæ noſtræ pervenerint, ſalu-
" tem. Quandoquidem nos conſiderantes, quod generalis ec-
" cleſiæ Scotiæ conventus in vigeſimum quartum diem *Maii*,
" proxime convenire ordinatus fuit, Noſque etiam abunde cu-
" pidi, quinetiam neceſſarium eſſe judicantes in commodum
" dictæ eccleſiæ, ut idem generalis eccleſiæ conventus, die
" ſtatuto debite obſervetur, atque, rebus magni momenti nos
" alio vocantibus, dicto conventui perſonaliter intereſſe nequi-
" mus; Noſque abunde ſatisfacti de fidelitate et ſufficientia
" fideliſſimi & dilectiſſimi noſtri conſanguinei *Joannis* comitis
" de *Glaſgow*, quod ad ſummum munus ſupremi noſtri com-
" miſſionarii dict. generali eccleſiæ conventui rite exercendum
" et obeundum uſquequaque eſt inſtructus: Noveritis igitur
" Nos nominaſſe, conſtituiſſe, et ordinaſſe, ſicuti Nos tenore
" præſentium nominamus, conſtituimus, et ordinamus memo-
" ratum fideliſſimum, et prædilectiſſimum noſtrum conſangui-
" neum *Joannem* comitem de *Glaſgow*, ſupremum noſtrum
" commiſſionarium, dict. generali eccleſiæ conventui Scotiæ
" Dando, et concedendo illi pleniſſimam Noſtram poteſtatem
" commiſſionem, et warrantum, ſacram Noſtram perſonam et
" authoritatem regalem repræſentandi, necnon præſentiam
" Noſtram ſupplendi, et locum Noſtrum in dicto ſubſe-
" quenti generali conventu, tanquam commiſſionario Noſtro,
" ad hunc effectum ſpecialiter conſtituto, tenendi, omniaque
" alia ad imperium et locum commiſſionarii, pro generali
" eccleſiæ conventu peragendi, tam plene, adeoque libere, in
" quovis reſpectu, quam quilibet alius ejuſdem ſummi mune-
" ris fecerat, ſeu quovis tempore præterito facere potuerat, vel
" ac Nos ipſi perſonaliter præſentes facere potuerimus; Quæ-
" que omnia et ſingula, ab antedict. *Joanne* comite de *Glaſgow*,
" in hac noſtra commiſſione proſequenda, legitime fecerit, ſeu
" fieri ordinaverit, Noſque firmiter approbamus, et habituri
" ſumus. Omnibus et ſingulis inſuper antedict. eccleſiæ et con-
" ventus paſtoribus et presbyteris, cæteriſque quibuſcunque
" infra illam partem *Magnæ Britanniæ*, *Scotiæ* vocat. ſubdi-
" tis noſtris quibuſcunque, cujuſcunque gradus, qualitatis,
" ut dictum *Joannem* comitem de *Glaſgow*, tanquam ſupremum
" noſtrum commiſſionarium, quoad effectum ſupra-mentio-
" natum, revereantur, agnoſcant, et dicto ipſius audientes ſe
" præbeant, ſtricte mandamus et imperamus; atque hanc No-
" ſtram commiſſionem, a dicto vigeſimo quarto die *Maii*, proxi-
" me incipere, et deinceps hac ſubſequenti ſeſſione dicti gene-
" ralis conventus, in vigore continuare declaravimus, vel uſque
" dum a nobis revocabitur, et exonerabitur. In cujus rei teſti-
" monium, ſigillum noſtrum, per unionis tractatum cuſtodiend.

et

" et in *Scotia*, vice et loco magni sigilli ejusd. utend. ordinat.
" præsentibus appendi mandavimus. Apud aulam nostram a-
" pud *St. James's*, vigesimo sexto die mensis *Aprilis*, anno do-
" mini millesimo septingentesimo sexagesimo quarto, regnique
" Nostri anno quarto, per signaturam manu S. D. N. regis su-
" prascript."

II.

The King's most gracious Letter to the General Assembly, presented to them by his Majesty's Commissioner.

Edinburgh, 24th May, 1764.

Suprascribitur, GEORGE R.

RIGHT Reverend, and Well-beloved, we greet you well. Having the most perfect and intire Confidence in your Duty, Loyalty, and Affection to our Person and Government, and being well assured of your unwearied Attention to the Cause of Virtue, Piety, and Religion; we gladly embrace every Opportunity of renewing to you our fixed Purpose and Resolution to support the Presbyterian Church of *Scotland*, as by Law established, in the full Possession and Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges.

Convinced, at the same Time, that you bring with you the best Intentions for promoting the Happiness of my Government, and the true Interest of the Church whereof you are Members, we have a peculiar Satisfaction in countenancing your present Meeting with our Royal Authority.

As the preventing the Growth of Popery, so repugnant to the Constitution of my Kingdoms, and the suppressing all Vice and Immorality, so destructive to Christianity, are Objects which will distinguish your Zeal in the Advancement of true Religion, and in which you will always meet with my steady Concurrence, so the avoiding all unnecessary Debates and Contentions amongst yourselves, will be equal Proofs of what we have hitherto experienced, your great Prudence, Wisdom, and Moderation.

And as you cannot but be highly sensible of the undisturbed Tranquillity and Freedom, which you enjoy in common with the rest of our good Subjects of *Scotland*; We are persuaded, that you will conscientiously discharge your Duties to the People committed to your Care, by infusing such Principles into their Minds, as their Holy Religion dictates, and which

are the beſt adapted to the Security of our happy Conſtitution, and their own moſt valuable Intereſts both here and hereafter.

We have appointed our Right Truſty, and Right Well-beloved Couſin, JOHN Earl of GLASGOW, to repreſent our Royal Perſon in this Aſſembly, being well ſatisfied of his Loyalty, Integrity, and Zeal for our Service, and of his particular Affection to the Church of *Scotland*, ſo that our Choice of him upon this Occaſion cannot but be moſt agreeable to you.

There is nothing more remaining, but to acquaint you, with our Hopes, that the Charity, Brotherly Love, and Unanimity of your Proceedings in the Buſineſs before you, will bring this your Meeting to as happy a Concluſion as that of any former Aſſembly: And ſo we bid you heartily Farewell.

Given at our Court at *St. James*'s the 26th Day of *April* 1764, in the fourth Year of our Reign.

By his Majeſty's Command,

SANDWICH.

III.

The General Aſſembly's Anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter.

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

YOUR Majeſty's moſt gracious Letter to this General Aſſembly of the Church of *Scotland*, was received with that Reſpect and Gratitude which is due by us to our gracious Sovereign, for ſo high an Honour conferred upon us.

The Expreſſions of your Majeſty's Confidence in the Loyalty and Affection of this Church to your Royal Perſon and Government, fill us with the higheſt Pleaſure. We truſt, that the Members of this Church ſhall never prove unworthy of this Confidence: It muſt be our Delight, as it is our Duty, to love and obey a King, under whoſe wiſe and truly paternal Adminiſtration our Liberties are ſecure, unleſs they ſhall be endangered by Licentiouſneſs in the Subjects themſelves, a Spirit which we heartily deteſt, as aſſuming the falſe Semblance of Liberty, that it may moſt effectually undermine it. Nothing except Regard to God and our own Conſciences, can animate us more in exerting ourſelves to the utmoſt, according to the Duty of our Offices, in promoting Virtue, Piety, and Religion, than the Notice which your Majeſty is pleaſed to take

take of our Endeavours to ſerve this glorious Cauſe. It is with Thankfulneſs, and with the moſt unlimited Confidence, that we receive this repeated Declaration of your Majeſty's fixt Purpoſe and Reſolution to ſupport the Presbyterian Church of *Scotland*, as by Law eſtabliſhed, in the full Poſſeſſion and Enjoyment of all it's Rights and Privileges.

Your Majeſty's countenancing our preſent Meeting with your Royal Authority, we thankfully acknowledge as a new Teſtimony of your Goodneſs, which gives us the ſincereſt Joy. We truſt, that we ſhall always deſerve the Continuance of this Favour, by aiming ſincerely in all our Meetings to promote the Happineſs of your Majeſty and Government, and the true Intereſt of the Church of which we are Members; Objects which, we are ſenſible, merit our moſt fixed and conſtant Attention, and which we well know to be inſeparably connected.

To prevent the Growth of Popery, a Superſtition alike contrary to the Word of God, and to the free and happy Conſtitution of your Majeſty's Kingdoms, to ſuppreſs Vice and Immorality, which our holy Religion teaches us to abhor, and to recommend Virtue and Piety to Mankind, are Ends which we are ſtrictly bound to purſue with unwearied Diligence. It is in the Spirit of that Wiſdom which cometh from above, that your Majeſty points out theſe to us as the proper Objects of true Zeal: By the Aſſiſtance of God, to theſe our Zeal ſhall be confined. And as your Majeſty's Approbation of the Prudence, Wiſdom, and Moderation of former Aſſemblies, convinces us with how favourable an Eye your Majeſty is pleaſed to look on the Judicatories of this Church, it muſt animate us with the moſt ardent Deſire to emulate thoſe who have gone before us, in the Exerciſe of Qualities which have procured them ſo honourable a Teſtimony from your Majeſty. Permit us to aſſure your Majeſty, that it ſhall be our ſincere Endeavour, by maintaining Charity, Brotherly Love, and Unanimity, thro' all the Proceedings of this Aſſembly, to render ourſelves not unworthy of the like Royal Approbation, when it ſhall be brought to a Concluſion.

We have ſuch an high Senſe of the undiſturbed Tranquillity and Freedom, which we enjoy in common with all your Majeſty's Subjects, that it ſhall be our Endeavour to confirm the People committed to our Charge in the Principles of Loyalty, and to infuſe into their Minds the Knowledge and Life of that moſt holy Religion, which promotes their Intereſts in the future Life, by inculcating all the Virtues which can render them dutiful and uſeful Subjects, and Friends to our happy Conſtitution, and which moſt effectually promote their true Happineſs in this Life.

We moſt thankfully acknowledge your Majeſty's Royal Donation for promoting Religion and Virtue in the leſs civilized Parts of this Nation, as a new Proof of your Majeſty's Concern for the beſt Intereſts of your Subjects, and we ſhall be careful to apply it in ſuch a Manner, that it may moſt effectually contribute to the Accompliſhment of your Majeſty's pious Intentions.

The approved Zeal of the Earl of *Glaſgow* in your Majeſty's Service, his ſtrict Integriry, his great Abilities for the Diſcharge of ſo high a Truſt, his exemplary Regard to Religion, his warm Affection to this Church, and his many amiable Qualities and Chriſtian Virtues, make your Majeſty's Choice of him to repreſent your Royal Perſon in this Aſſembly, moſt acceptable to this whole Church.

That the King of Heaven and Earth may long preſerve your Majeſty the Guardian of Liberty, and the Patron of Piety and Virtue to your People, that he may render your Adminiſtration proſperous, that he may pour down his Bleſſings on your Royal Conſort, our moſt gracious Queen, that the divine Favour may ever attend his Royal Highneſs the Prince of *Wales*, and the whole of your Royal Family, that your Deſcendents may, to lateſt Ages, reign over a free and loyal People, that after a long and happy Life on Earth, you may enjoy the glorious Crown of Immortality, are, and ever ſhall be, the earneſt Prayers of,

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

Your Majeſty's moſt faithful, moſt obedient, and moſt loyal Subjects,

The Miniſters and Elders met in this National Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Preſence, and at our Appointment, by

ALEX. GERARD, Moderator.

Edin. May 26th, 1764.

IV. The

IV.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Islands*, and for managing his Majesty's Royal Bounty for that End.

Edinburgh, 4th June 1764. *Sess.* 10*th.*

THE General Assembly do hereby nominate and appoint the Reverend Dr. *Alexander Gerard*, Professor of Divinity in the College of *Aberdeen*, Moderator, the Ministers Members of the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Matthew Cleghorn* at , Mr. *Patrick Mair* at *Bressee*, Mr. *John Drysdale* at *Kirkliston*, Mr. *James Hogg* at *Linlithgow*, Dr. *Alexander Carlyle* at *Inveresk*, Mr. *Hew Bannatyne* at *Dirleton*, Mr. *Matthew Reid* at *Prestonkirk*, Mr. *Robert Monteith* at *Longformacus*, Mr. *Philip Redpath* at *Hutton*, Mr. *George Redpath* at *Stitchill*, Mr. *George Bruce* at *Minto*, Mr. *John Goldie* at *Earlston*, Mr. *James Gatt* at *Graitney*, Mr. *Patrick Woodrow* at *Tarbolton*, Professor *Robert Trail* at *Glasgow*, Mr. *James Woodrow* at *Stevenson*, Mr. *Henry Miller* at *Nielston*, Mr. *James Hamilton* at *Abbay Paisley*, Mr. *James Stirling* at *Glasgow*, Mr. *Colin Campbell* in *Kilmaronock*, Mr. *Duncan MacFarlane* at *Drymen*, Mr. *Alexander Lamont* at *Kilfinan*, Mr. *David Campbell* at *Southend*, Mr. *Archibald Lambie* at *Kilmartin*, Mr. *Archibald Campbell* at *North Knapdale*, Mr. *Ludovick Grant* at *Ardchatten*, Mr. *Alexander MacLaggan* at *Little Dunkeld*, Mr. *James Campbell* at *Kenmuir*, Mr. *James Oswald* at *Methven*, Mr. *Robert Drummond* at *Auchterarder*, Mr. *James Richardson* at *Aberfoil*, Mr. *John Pinkerton* at *Markinch*, Mr. *David Hunter* at *Monymeal*, Professor *Andrew Schaw* at *St. Andrews*, Principal *Tullideph* at *St. Andrews*, Mr. *James Ogilvie* at *Rothes*, Mr. *Robert Grant* at *Cullen*, Mr. *Alexander Watt* at *Alves*, Mr. *Patrick Dunbar* at *Nairn*, Mr. *James Lindsay* at *Lochmaben*, Mr. *George Nicol* at *Kinnettles*, Mr. *Thomas Randal* at *Inchture*, Mr. *William Bell* at *Aberbrothwick*, Mr. *George Tytler* at *Fairn*, Mr. *Alexander Shank* at *Arbuthnot*, Principal *Campbell*, Professor *Thomas Reid*, Mr. *Robert Lumisden* at *Auchindore*, Mr. *Algernoon Gordon* at *Tullinessel*, Mr. *Thomas Mitchel* at *Tarland*, Mr. *Alexander Gordon* at *Kintore*, Mr. *George Grant* at *Rathven*, Mr. *William Gordon* at *Alvie*, Mr. *Roger Moodie* at *Gartlie*, Mr. *Lewis Grant* at *Duthil*, Mr. *Alexander Coull* at *Edinkellie*, Mr. *Daniel Brodie* at *Calder*, Mr. *Joseph Munro* at *Eddertown*, Mr. *Colin MacKenzie* at *Fodderty*, Mr.

William Grant at *Kellmanivaig*, Mr. *James Nicolſon* at *Duirniſh*, Mr. *Martin MacPherſon* at *Golſpay*, Mr. *James Brodie* at *Leatheren*, Miniſters, Lord *Coalſton*, Lord *Alemoor*, Lord *Stoneſield*, Lord Provoſt of *Edinburgh*, Lord Conſervator, Lord Advocate, Baron *Muir*, Mr. *Gideon Sehaw*, Mr. *Andrew Crosbie* Advocate, Dr. *Robert Findlay*, Mr. *Iſlay Campbell*, Advocate, Mr. *Alexander Wight* Advocate, Mr. *John Bowman*, Sir *James Colquhoun*, Mr. *William Sands*, Mr. *John Chalmers*, Mr. *Alexander MacMillan*, Mr. *James Fleming*, Mr. *John Swinton* Advocate, Captain *John Campbell*, Mr. *James Stevenſon-Rogers* Advocate, Dr. *Robert Whyte*, *John MacNaughton*, Eſq; the Procurator, Mr. *Iſaac Grant*, Mr. *Albert Munro*, Mr. *Alexander MacAulay*, Mr. *Colquhoun Grant*, Mr. *Coſmo Gordon* Advocate, Mr. *Henry Dundaſs* Advocate, Mr. *Samuel Charters*, Mr. *William MacDonald*, Mr. *Sinclair* of *Ulbſter*, Dr. *Matthew Stewart*, Ruling Elders, to be a Committee of this Aſſembly, for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands* of *Scotland*, for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, ſuppreſſing Popery and Prophaneneſs, and for managing the Royal Bounty given for theſe Ends, according to, and in Terms of his Majeſty's Grant to this Aſſembly. In Proſecution of which Purpoſes, the Committee are to appoint Preachers and Catechiſts to go to ſuch Places as they ſhall find, upon due Information, to be moſt proper, according to his Majeſty's Deſign expreſſed in his Warrant; and, in ſo doing, that they have particular Regard to ſuch Pariſhes in *South-Uiſt*, *Small-Iſles*, *Glenco*, *Harris*, the Countries of *Moidart*, *Glengairie*, and *Lochaber*, and the other Pariſhes of the Synods of *Glenelg* and *Argyle*, which the Committee ſhall find, by Reaſon of their vaſt Extent, the Prevalency of Popery and Ignorance, and other unhappy Circumſtances, to be in the greateſt Diſtreſs: And they ſhall take Care, that the Perſons they employ, be certified, and found, upon due Trial, to be properly qualified for theſe reſpective Offices, of good Abilities for the ſame, of a pious Life and Converſation, prudent, of undoubted Loyalty to his Majeſty, and of competent Skill in the Principles of Divinity, and particularly in Popiſh Controverſies: Such Preachers and Catechiſts being hereby appointed to be ſubject to, and under the Inſpection of, the Presbyteries of the Bounds to which they are ſent, who are to take Care that the Orders of the Committee be duely obſerved by them: And the Preachers are alſo appointed to catechiſe; and both they and the Catechiſts to inſtruct the People from Houſe to Houſe, and to viſit the Sick: And, in all their Labours among the People, to be careful to teach them the Principles and Duties of the true Chriſtian Proteſtant Religion, and the Obligations they are under to Duty and Loyalty to our Sovereign King *George*, and Obedience to the Laws: And the Committee are impowered to give them ſuch Inſtructions, as to their Work and Behaviour, as they ſhall judge meet; which Inſtructions the Preachers and

Catechiſts

Catechists are hereby ordered to obey. The General Assembly do further appoint the said Committee to have a particular Regard, in their Proceedings, to the Regulations agreed upon by the Committee of the Assembly for managing the Royal Bounty, on the 30th Day of *September* 1730, approven by subsequent Assemblies; and to take Care that Presbyteries, and others concerned, observe the same, which they are hereby ordered to do: Particularly the Assembly ordains the several Presbyteries to insert in their Registers, the Committee's Appointments of the Designations, Salaries, and Stations of the several Missionaries, and to have an exact Regard thereto in all the Letters they shall write about the said Missionaries, and in giving of Certificates to them; and to direct all their Letters concerning Missionaries in their Bounds, only to the Moderator of the Committee; which Letters shall be signed, at the Appointment of the Presbytery, by the Moderator or Clerk thereof: And the Assembly does discharge any Payments to be made of the Salaries of the Missionaries, except upon Receipts from the Missionaries themselves, and upon Certificates from the Presbyteries, bearing that they have served for the Time mentioned in the Receipts. The General Assembly do also impower the said Committee to apply, for the Purposes above-mentioned, what may remain of the last Year's Royal Bounty not disposed of, by Reason of any of the Missionaries not fulfilling the Appointments laid upon them: And they are to keep a Register of their Proceedings, and likewise distinct Books of Accompts, how the foresaid Money is bestowed, which shall be patent to any concerned who please to inspect the same. Of the Persons above named as Members of this Committee, five are declared to be a Quorum, whereof three are to be Ministers. But it is hereby appointed, that at the quarterly Meeting of the Committee, in which the Scheme or Establishment of Missionaries for the ensuing Year is to be approved and determined, not less than fourteen shall be the Quorum, whereof nine shall be Ministers, and the said Committee are appointed to have their Meetings at *Edinburgh*, in the Hall of the Society in *Scotland* for propagating Christian Knowledge, the last *Thursday* of every Month, at four of the Clock Afternoon, and also the first lawful Day after the Adjournment of the four stated Diets of the Commission of the General Assembly, at ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, except that Day shall fall to be *Saturday*, and then the Meeting shall be upon *Monday* next thereafter, at the said Hour; with Power to the said Committee to adjourn themselves to such Times and Places, as they shall find most needful and convenient; and they are to keep a Correspondence with the Commission of the General Assembly, and the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, and their Committee of Directors, and to take their Advice and Assistance; and also to correspond with the Synods and Presbyteries concerned. They are likeways instructed and impowered, as

they

they ſhall ſee Cauſe, to apply to the Government, or any Magiſtrate, for Aſſiſtance and Support in carrying on the Deſign of the Commiſſion now given to them. And the General Aſſembly do by theſe Preſents nominate and appoint Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, to be Receiver of the foreſaid Royal Bounty, and to pay out the ſame as he ſhall be directed and ordered by the ſaid Committee, and according to their Rules. And the ſaid Committee are appointed to examine the Accompts of the Diſtribution of the Royal Bounty, and lay the ſame before the Lords Commiſſioners of his Majeſty's Treaſury, or the Barons of his Majeſty's Court of Exchequer, and to report their Diligence to the General Aſſembly, to whom they are to be accountable. And it is agreed, that no Perſon once employed and inſert in the Scheme, ſhall be ſtruck out thereof for that Year, but by the *Quorum* of at leaſt fourteen, whereof nine to be Miniſters; and in Caſe any Complaint ſhall be made againſt any of them on the Scheme, it ſhall not be determined the firſt ordinary Meeting that the ſame is offered, but it ſhall ly on the Table till another Meeting; and in the mean Time, the Perſon complained of, and the Preſbytery of the Bounds wherein he officiates, ſhall be acquainted of ſuch Complaint, and theſe concerned be required to ſend to the ſaid Committee a juſt Account of the Matter, againſt their next Meeting. And it is further appointed, that after the yearly Scheme of Miſſionaries on the Royal Bounty is ſettled in Manner above directed, and Notice thereof given by Letters to the Preſbyteries concerned, ſuch Preſbyteries ſhall ſend up to the ſaid Committee their Anſwers to theſe Letters, at fartheſt with their Commiſſioners to the General Aſſembly, if the ſame be not done ſooner; and that the Committee, at their firſt Meeting after the General Aſſembly, ſhall endeavour to compleat the next Year's Scheme themſelves; and if they cannot compleat it, that they ſhall name a Sub-committee of their Number for that Purpoſe, who are to lay their Draught thereof before a ſubſequent Meeting, which are appointed to meet as ſoon after the Riſing of the Aſſembly as poſſible: And that the ſaid Committee, in making up the Scheme of Miſſionaries, *&c.* do not exceed the Sum in the Grant.

V. Com-

V.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for discussing Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, 4th *June*, 1764.

THE General Assembly considering, that there are divers Affairs which they cannot overtake, do hereby nominate, commissionate, and appoint, the Reverend Doctor Alexander Gerard, Professor of Divinity in the College of *Aberdeen*, their Moderator: And from the Presbytery of *Kirkwall*, Mr. Matthew Cleghorn, Mr. James Alison, Ministers; Mr. John Pringle, Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Cairston*, Mr. James Tyrie at *Sandwick*, Mr. Thomas Hepburn at *Birsay*, Ministers; Mr. George Wallace, Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *North-Isles*, Mr. Nicol Spence at *Westrie*, Mr. Alexander Pitcairn at *Shapinshey*, Ministers; Professor Adam Ferguson, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Zetland*, Mr. Patrick Mair at *Bressee*, Mr. Thomas Miller at *Lerwick*, Ministers; Sir Andrew Mitchel, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, Mr. George Fordyce at *Corstorphine*, Professor Hamilton, Dr. Gilbert Hamilton, Mr. William Bennet, Dr. Hugh Blair, Mr. John Erskine, Ministers; Earl of *Lauderdale*, the Hon. Charles Hope-Vere, Bailie John Walker, Ruling Elders: From the City of *Edinburgh*, Provost Drummond, John Nisbet of *North-field*: From the University of *Edinburgh*, Principal Robertson: From the Church of *Campvere*, Mr. James Yair in *Campvere*, Minister; Lord Conservator, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Linlithgow*, Mr. James Hogg at *Linlithgow*, Mr. Patrick Bailie at *Borrowstounness*, Mr. John Drysdale at *Kirkliston*, Mr. John Ritchie at *Abercorn*, Ministers; the Right Honourable the Lord Napier, Thomas Hogg younger, of *Newliston*, Ruling Elders: From the Burgh of *Linlithgow*, Baron Muir: From the Presbytery of *Biggar*, Mr. John Brown at *Coulter*, Mr. John MacCaul at *Symington*, Ministers; Bailie Robert Forrester, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Peebles*, Mr. William Wallace at *Drumelzier*, Mr. Stephen Oliver at *Innerliethen*, Ministers; Sollicitor Montgomery, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Peebles*, Mr. Alexander Murray, Advocate: From the Presbytery of *Dalkeith*, Mr. Thomas Turnbull at *Borthwick*, Mr. Geo. Shepherd at *Newbottle*, Dr. Alex. Carlisle, at *Inveresk*, Ministers; Lord President, Ruling Elder: From the

Presbytery of *Haddington*, Mr. Hugh Bannatyne at *Dirleton*, Mr. John Main at *Athelſtaneford*, Mr. Matthew Murray at *North-Berwick*, Miniſters; Lord Coalſton, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Haddington*, John Buchan of *Lethem*, Eſq; From the Presbytery of *Dunbar*, Mr. John Clunie at *Whitekirk*, Mr. Matthew Reid at *Preſtonkirk*, Miniſters; George Hepburn of *Smeatoun*, Eſq; Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Dunbar*, Mr. Robert Sinclair, Advocate: From the Preſbytery of *Dunſe*, Mr. William Home at *Foggo*, Mr. Robert Monteith at *Longformacus*, Miniſters; Robert Hepburn of *Clerkington*, Eſq, Ruling Elder; From the Presbytery of *Chirnſide*, Mr. James Allan at *Eymouth*, Mr. Philip Redpath at *Hutton*, Miniſters; Sir John Stewart, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Kelſo*, Mr. George Redpath at *Stitchill*, Mr. James Turnbull at *Linton*, Miniſters; Mr. Henry Dundaſs, Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Jedburgh*, Mr. George Bruce at *Minto*, Mr. Thomas Elliot at *Cavers*, Mr. James Richardſon at *Oxnam*, Miniſters; Bailie Thomas Turnbull, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Earlſtown*, Mr. John Goldie at *Earlſtown*, Mr. William Gullen at *Legerwood*, Miniſters; Mr. Alexander Smith of *Iſla*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Selkirk*, Mr. Alexander Glen at *Gallaſhiels*, Mr. William Campbell at *Liliaſleef*, Miniſters; Lord Alemoor, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Selkirk*, Gideon Schaw of *Lawrieſton*, Eſq; From the Presbytery of *Annan*, Mr. James Gatt at *Graitney*, Mr. James Currie at *Middlebie*, Miniſters; Mr. Alexander Orr Writer to the Signet, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Langholm*, Mr. Robert Rutherfurd at *Caſtletown*, Mr. Richard Scott at *Ewes*, Miniſters; Mr. John Craigie, Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Lochmaben*, Mr. James Lindſay at *Lochmaben*, Mr. John Burges at *Kirkmichael*, Mr. William Barron at *Wamphry*, Miniſters; Provoſt James Chalmers, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Penpont*, Mr. Alexander Bayne at *Keir*, Mr. William Moodie at *Glencairn*, Miniſters; James Ferguſon of *Craigdarroch*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dumfries*, Mr. William Clerk at *Kirkgunzeon*, Mr. George Herron at *Terreagles*, Mr. William Sloan at *Dunſcore*, Miniſters; Mr. Andrew Crosbie, Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Preſbytery of *Kirkcudbright*, Mr. Alexander Brown at *Tongueland*, Mr. John Gilleſpie at *Kells*, Mr. David Forbes at *Borgue*, Miniſters; Mr. James M'Clatchie in *Balmaclellan*, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *New Galloway*, Mr. Wil. Ferguſon in *Froſtown*: From the Presbytery of *Wigton*, Mr. Robert Hunter at *Kirkcowen*, Mr. James Laing at *Glaſſerton*, Miniſters; Mr. Robert Brownlee, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Wigton*, Mr. Alexander Agnew: From the Presbytery of *Stranraer*, Mr. James M'Culloch at *Kirkcolm*, Mr. Andrew Roſs at *Inch*, Miniſters; Dr. Robert Finlay of *Drummore*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Ayr*, Mr. Patrick Woodrow at *Tarbolton*,

ton, Mr. William M'Quhae at *St. Quivox*, Mr. George Muir at *Old Cumnock*, Mr. William M'Gill at *Ayr*, Mr. Duncan M'Mayne at *Damellintown*, Miniſters; Lord Advocate, and Alan Whitefoord, Eſq; Ruling Elders: From the Burgh of *Ayr*, Mr. John Chalmer Writer to the Signet: From the Presbytery of *Irvine*, Mr. James Halket at *Fenwick*, Mr. James Woddrow at *Stevenſon*, Mr. John Graham at *Dunlop*, Miniſters; Bailie James Wilſon, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Paiſley*, Mr. Robert Paton at *Renfrew*, Mr. Harry Miller at *Neilſton*, Mr. Alex. Scott at *Innerkip*, Mr. James Hamilton at the Abbay of *Paiſley*, Miniſters; Mr. Iſla Campbell Advocate, and John Wardrop of *Auldhouſe*, Ruling Elders: From the Burgh of *Renfrew*, Provoſt Wil. Somervell: From the Presbytery of *Hamilton*, Mr. Rob. Bell at *Avandale*, Mr. Rob. Park at *Old Monkland*, Mr. Dav. Connel at *Kilbride*, Miniſters; Mr. Wil. Gilmore, Preacher, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Lanerk*, Mr. Wil. Hamilton at *Douglas*, Mr. Ja. Porteous at *Weſtown*, Mr. Ja Scott at *Carluke*, Miniſters; Mr. Al. Wight, Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Lanerk*, James Dewar of *Vogrie*, Eſq; From the Presbytery of *Glaſgow*, Mr. James Stirling, Mr. John Gillies, Mr. John Telfer, Miniſters; Provoſt Ingram, Ruling Elder: From the Univerſity of *Glaſgow*, Profeſſor Robert Trail: From the City of *Glaſgow*, Mr. John Bowman: From the Presbytery of *Dunbarton*, Mr. Colin Campbell at *Kilmaronock*, Mr. Duncan MacFarlane at *Drymen*, Mr. Archibald Smith at *Fintray*, Miniſters; Sir James Colquhoun of *Luſs*, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Dunbarton*, Commiſſary Smollet: From the Presbytery of *Denoon*, Mr. Alexander Lamont at *Kilfinan*, Mr. Richard Brown at *Kingarth*, Miniſters; Mr. William Sands, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Rothſay*, John Dunlop, Eſq; From the Presbytery of *Kintyre*, Mr. David Campbell at *Southend*, Mr. George Robertſon at *Campbeltoun*, Miniſters; Alexander M'Millan of *Dunmore*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Inverara*, Mr. Archibald Lambie at *Kilmartin*, Mr. Archibald Campbell at *North Knapdale*, Miniſters; William Wilſon of *Soonhope*, Eſq; Ruling Elder; From the Presbytery of *Lorn*, Mr. Ludovick Grant at *Ardchattan*, Mr. Pat. M'Donald at *Kilmore*, Miniſters; Lord Stonefield, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dunkeld*, Mr. Alex. M'Laggan at *Liitle Dunkeld*, Mr. James Gow, Mr. James Smith at *Rattray*, Mr. James Campbell at *Kenmure*, Miniſters; the Earl of *Breadalbane*, and Mr. James Fleming Advocate, Ruling Elders: From the Presbytery of *Perth*, Mr. James Oſwald at *Methven*, Mr. Patrick Meek at *Kinnoul*, Mr. Archibald Stevenſon at *St. Madoes*, Mr. Alan Stewart at *Kilſpindie*, Miniſters; Mr. John Belſches of *Innermay*, and Mr. John Swinton Advocate, Ruling Elders: From the Preſbytery of *Stirling*, Mr. James Turnbull at *Denny*, Mr. John Duncan at *Alloa*, Miniſters; Lord Barjarg, Ruling Elder: From the Preſbytery of *Auchterarder*, Mr. Robert Drummond

at

at *Auchterarder*, Sir William Moncrief Baronet at *Blackford*, Mr. Alex. Colvill at *Gask*, Miniſters; Mr. John Caw in *Millnab*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dumblane*, Mr. James Richardſon at *Aberfoil*, Mr. James Wright at *Logie*, Miniſters; Captain John Campbell of *Kilpont*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dunfermline*, Mr. Robert Rolland at *Culroſs*, Mr. James Reid at *Beath*, Mr. Wil. MacLeiſh at *Culroſs*, Miniſters; Mr. Will. Anderſon Preacher, Ruling Elder: From the Preſbytery of *Kirkcaldy*, Mr. Robert Spears at *Burntiſland*, Mr. John Pinkerton at *Markinch*, Mr. Robert Colvill at *Dyſart*, Miniſters; Mr. John Ramſay of *Whitehill*, Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Kirkcaldy*, Mr. Robert Chalmers: From the Burgh of *Dyſart*, Mr. James Stevenſon-Rogers, Advocate: From the Burgh of *Kinghorn*, Dr. Robert Whyte: From the Burgh of *Burntiſland*, Mr. Samuel Charteris: From the Presbytery of *Cupar*, Mr. George Boes at *Cupar*, Mr. Thomas Condie at *Dairſie*, Mr. Samuel Weſt at *Logie*, Mr. David Hunter at *Monymeal*, Miniſters; the Right Hon. the Earl of Leven, and And. Barclay of *Pitachop*, Eſq; Ruling Elders: From the Presbytery of St. *Andrews*, Mr. Jo. Ferrier at *Largo*, Mr. And. Shaw Profeſſor of Divinity, Mr. David Beath at *Pittenweem*, Mr. John Chieſly at *St. Monance*, Miniſters; Mr. James Chalmers Merchant in *Anſtruther Eaſter*, and Mr. Laurence Adamſon, Library-Keeper to the Univerſity of *St. Andrews*, Ruling Elders: From the Univerſity of *St. Andrews*, Principal Tullideph: From the Burgh of *Crail*, Mr. Andrew Jamieſon: From the Burgh of *Anſtruther-Weſter*, John MacNaughton, Eſq; From the Preſbytery of *Meigle*, Mr. James Ogilvy, Mr. John Haliburton, Mr. Thomas Maſon, Miniſters; Mr. Murray of *Lintroſe*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Forfar*, Mr. George Nicol at *Kinnettles*, Mr. Griffith Ferguſon at *Dunichen*, Miniſters; Mr. Geo. Dempſter of *Dunichen*, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Forfar*, Mr. Jo. Adam: From the Presbytery of *Dundee*, Mr. Tho. Randel at *Inchture*, Mr. David Scot at *Auchterhouſe*, Mr. Alexander Ferrier at *Dundee*, Miniſters; Bailie John Jobſon, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Dundee*, Mr. James Fairweather Shipmaſter in *Dundee*: From the Presbytery of *Aberbrothock*, Mr. William Bell at *Aberbrothock*, Mr. Ja. Hunter at *Kirkden*, Miniſters; the Hon. Baron Maule, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Brechin*, Mr. Geo. Tytler at *Fairn*, Mr. Geo. Aitken at *Montroſe*, Mr. George Wilſon at *Kinnaird*, Miniſters; the Earl of Northeſk, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Fordun*, Mr. Alex. Shank at *Arburthnot*, Mr. Robert Young at *Benholm*, Mr. Alex. Shank at *Ecclesgreig*, Miniſters; Robert Scot of *Dunninald*, Eſq; Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Aberdeen*, Princpal Campbell, Mr. Pat. Duff at *Old Machar*, Mr. Gavin Mitchel at *Kinneller*, Mr. John Farquhar at *Nigg*, Miniſters; Lord Preſtongrange and Provoſt John Duncan, Ruling Elders: *King's College*, Profeſſor Thomas Reid; *Mariſhall College*, Dr. John Jardine: From the Presbytery of *Kincardin-O-Niel*,

Mr.

Mr. John Ogilvie at *Midmar*, Mr. Thomas Mitchel at *Tarland*, Mr. John Ramsay at *Strathaen*, Ministers; Mr. Will. Maitland Preacher of the Gospel, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Alford*, Mr. Robert Lumsden at *Auchindore*, Mr. William Duff at *Glenbucket*, Mr. George Algernoon-Gordon at *Tullinesle*, Mr. John Duncan at *Auchindore*, Ministers: From the Presbytery of *Garioch*, Mr. Alexander Gordon at *Kintore*, Mr. Thomas Shepherd at *Bourty*, Mr. James Hay at *Inverury*, Ministers; the Procurator, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Inverury*, Mr. John Clark Merchant in *Edinburgh*: From the Presbytery of *Fordyce*, Mr. George Grant at *Rathven*, Mr. Robert Grant at *Cullen*, Ministers; Mr. Alexander Burnet, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Cullen*, Mr. John Robertson, Factor to the Earl of Lauderdale: From the Burgh of *Banff*, Bailie George Gairden: From the Presbytery of *Strathbogie*, Mr. Alexander Chalmers at *Cairnie*, Mr. Roger Moodie at *Gartly*, Ministers; Mr. Cosmo Gordon Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Aberlour*, Mr. John Grant at *Dundurcas* Mr. James Ogilvie at *Rothes*, Ministers; Mr. Isaac Grant Writer in *Edinburgh*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Abernethy*, Mr. William Gordon at *Alvie*, Mr. Lewis Grant at *Duthil*, Ministers: From the Presbytery of *Elgin*, Mr. David Rentoul at *Elgin*, Mr. Alexander Watt at *Alves*, Ministers; Bailie Robert Grant, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Elgin*, Mr. David Samson, Factor to the Earl of Hopeton: From the Presbytery of *Forres*, Mr. Alexander Coull at *Edinkellie*, Mr. Patrick Dunbar at *Nairn*, Ministers: Bailie James Rose of *Nairn*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Inverness*, Mr. Daniel Brodie at *Calder*, Mr Robert Rose at *Inverness*, Ministers; Mr. Alexander Campbell Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Tain*, Mr. Joseph Monro at *Eddertown*, Mr. George Balfour at *Tarbot*, Ministers; David Ross, Esq; of *Inverchasley*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dingwall*, Mr. Colin MacKenzie at *Fodderty* Mr. Donald Fraser at *Urquhart*, Ministers: Albert Munro of *Coul*, Esq; Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Abertarph*, Mr. John Grant at *Urquhart*, Mr. Will. Grant at *Kilmannivaig*, Ministers; Mr. Colquhoun Grant Writer, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Skye*, Mr. John MacPherson at *Sclate*, Mr. James Nicolson at *Duirnish*, Ministers; Mr. MacAulay, Preacher of the Gospel, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Gairloch*, Mr. Ja. Robertson at *Lochbroom*, Mr. Colin MacFarquhar at *Applecross*, Ministers; Mr. William MacDonald Writer to the Signet, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dornoch*, Mr. Martin MacPherson at *Golspey*, Mr. Hugh Rose at *Creich*, Ministers; Mr. Alexander Gray of *Over-Skibo*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Caithness*, Mr. James Brodie, Mr. Alexander Pope Ministers; Mr. Sinclair of *Ulbster*, Ruling Elder: To be Commissioners of this General Assembly, to the Effect after-mentioned; with Power to the said Commissioners, or their Quorum, which is hereby declared to be

any Thirty-one of the ſaid Commiſſioners, whereof Twenty-one are always to be Miniſters, to meet and conveen within the Aſſembly-houſe at *Edinburgh*, the firſt Day after the Diſſolution of this Aſſemby, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon; and thereafter, the ſecond *Wedneſday* of *Auguſt*, third *Wedneſday* of *November*, and the firſt *Wedneſday* of *March* next to come, and oftner, when and where they ſhall think fit and convenient, with Power to the ſaid Commiſſioners to chuſe their own Moderator: And likeways, the General Aſſembly fully impowers their ſaid Commiſſioners, or their Quorum above-mentioned, to cognoſce and finally determine, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe, in every Matter referred, or that ſhall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Aſſembly, and to do every Thing contained in, and conform to the Inſtructions given, or to be given by this Aſſembly; and to advert to the Intereſt of the Church on every Occaſion, that the Church, and preſent Eſtabliſhment thereof, do not ſuffer or ſuſtain any Prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be anſwerable: Providing always, that this general Clauſe be not extended to particular Affairs, or Proceſſes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of univerſal Concern to, or Influence upon, the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, that no private Proceſſes be determined, except at the four ſtated Diets; and what ſhall be determined at one Diet of the Commiſſion, with Relation to private Cauſes, ſhall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and ſhall ſtand and continue in Force 'till diſapproven by the General Aſſembly. And the Aſſembly renews the Inſtructions given by the General Aſſembly, in the Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſeventeen, to their Commiſſion, and appoints the ſame to ſtand in full Force, as Inſtructions to the Commiſſioners before-named, and to be obſerved by them in all Points, as if the ſame were ſpecially here inſert; and that they inquire into the publiſhing and ſpreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of Opinions of whatever Kind, inconſiſtent with our *Confeſſion of Faith*; and that the Recommendation of ſuch Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word, Writ, or Print, be called before the ſaid Commiſſion to anſwer for the ſame. And further, the ſaid Commiſſion is hereby impowered to receive any References and Appeals that ſhall be made to them from Synods, in Matters of Doctrine, and ripen ſuch Affairs for the next General Aſſembly; and to contribute what they can to the ſuppreſſing of Vice and Immorality, and give all needful Advice and Aſſiſtance to Synods and Presbyteries, upon Application to them for that End: Likeways to take Care that the Impreſſions of the *Holy Scriptures*, the *Confeſſion of Faith*, and *Catechiſms*, and ſuch Books as are authoriſed by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worſhip, Diſcipline, and Government thereof, be correct; and give Directions about printing the ſame. And the Commiſſioners are appointed

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and impowered to keep a Correſpondence with the Committee for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*, for ſuppreſſing Popery and Superſtition, and for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, and carrying on a Reformation in theſe Parts, and give Aſſiſtance and Concurrence therein; and, if Need be, to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy and ſpeedy Redreſs. And the ſaid Commiſſioners are hereby ſtrictly prohibited and diſcharged to meddle in any other Matters, than what are committed and referred to them, as above-mentioned: And, in all their Actings, they are to proceed according to the Acts and Conſtitution of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the ſame; declaring, that in, and for all their Actings, they ſhall be accountable to, and cenſurable by the next General Aſſembly, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe. And the General Aſſembly appoints the ſaid Commiſſioners particularly to obſerve the Acts of the General Aſſemblies 1712, and 1719, reſpecting the Application of the public Money, which two Acts are printed among the Acts of Aſſembly 1761. And this Commiſſion is to continue and endure until another Commiſſion be appointed; and Members are required to attend the Diets of the ſaid Commiſſion, and Abſents therefrom are ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th Act of the General Aſſembly, held in the Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſix. And for the better ſecuring of a Quorum, and Attendance of Members on the Commiſſion, the General Aſſembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, or any other Presbytery within twelve Miles thereof, to meet on any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meetings of this Commiſſion; and ſuch of the Members of theſe Presbyteries as are on the Commiſſion, are required, all of them, to give Attendance on the Diets thereof; and the Presbyteries at a greater Diſtance, who have four or more Members on the Commiſſion, are to take Care, that at leaſt two of them attend each Diet of the ſame: And the General Aſſembly appoint their Commiſſion, at their firſt Meeting, to diſcuſs as many of the Cauſes and Queſtions, relative to the Settlement of vacant Churches, which are or ſhall be referred to them by the Aſſembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, that when any Presbytery, or Synod of this Church, ſhall decline to comply with the Sentences of the Commiſſion, or to give the ſame a full Execution, in that Caſe the Commiſſion is hereby prohibited to execute the ſame, by appointing any ſuch correſpondent Meetings, as has been ſometimes the Practice; but ſhall allow the ſame to ly over to the enſuing Aſſembly, to which ſuch Presbyteries or Synods ſhall be anſwerable for ſuch their Conduct, and are hereby appointed to ſend up with their Commiſſioners their Reaſons for the ſame. And the Aſſembly doth further impower and direct the ſaid Commiſſion, to make due Application to the King and Parliament, for Redreſs of the Grievance of Patronage, in caſe a favourable

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Opportunity for ſo doing ſhall occur during the Subſiſtence of this Commiſſion. And the General Aſſembly do enjoin their Commiſſion, that in paſſing their Sentences, and in ordering the Execution of the ſame, they ſtrictly obſerve the 12th Act of the Aſſembly 1736.

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OF THE

Actings and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*, held in the Year 1764, which are not printed at full Length.

AFTER Sermon by the Reverend Doctor *William Robertson*, Principal of the University of *Edinburgh*, Moderator of the last General Assembly, the Ministers and Ruling Elders, Members of this Assembly, did conveen in the Assembly House, *May* 24th 1764, *Sess.* 1*st*.

The Reverend Doctor *Alexander Gerard*, Professor of Divinity in the Marishal College of *Aberdeen*, was chosen Moderator, and, at the Assembly's Desire, took the Chair. *Ibid.*

The King's Commission to *John* Earl of *Glasgow*, to represent his Royal Person, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

The King's most gracious Letter to this Assembly, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

A Committee named for answering the King's Letter. *Ibid.*

A Committee named for revising the Commissions of this Assembly, censuring Absents from the Diets thereof, naming Ministers to preach before his Grace the King's Commissioner, receiving in Lists of the several Probationers in the several Presbyteries, in order to their being recorded, and of Students of Divinity at the several Universities. *Ibid.*

Committee for Overtures named. *Ibid.*

Committee for Bills, References, and Appeals named. *Ibid.*

A Diet spent in Prayer, *May* 25th, *Sess.* 2*d*.

The Act 7th of the Assembly 1718, for the better Dispatch of the Business of the Assembly, read, and the Observation thereof enjoined. *Ibid.*

A Letter from Doctor *David Dickson* to the Moderator, relating to an Objection against the Commission from the Presbytery of *Peebles*, remitted to the Committee for Overtures. *Ibid.*

Ministers named to preach before his Grace the King's Commissioner. *Ibid.*

The Draught of an Answer to the King's most gracious Letter, brought in and approven, and his Grace the Commissioner, at the Assembly's Request, undertakes to transmit the same to his Majesty. *May* 26th, *Sess.* 3*d*.

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A Committee named to reviſe the Regiſter of the Actings and Proceedings of the Commiſſion of the late General Aſſembly, audite the Procurator and Agent's Accompts, conſider the State of the public Money, and prepare Overtures about the ſame. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to reviſe the Regiſter of the Committee appointed by laſt Aſſembly, for managing the Royal Bounty, and for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Synod Books of *Merſe*, *Perth*, and *Fife*. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Orkney*, *Lothian* and *Tweedale*, *Dumfries*, *Galloway*, *Glaſgow* and *Air*, *Argyle*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Aberdeen*, *Murray*, *Roſs*, *Glenelg*, *Sutherland*, and the Preſbytery Book of *Zetland*, abſent; reſolved, that the Reaſons thereof be inquired into. *Ibid.*

A Report from the Procurator anent the ſeveral Applications for a Share of the public Money, referred to the Committee on the public Accompts. *Ibid.*

The Committee for Overtures appointed to receive in from the ſeveral Members, any Inſtructions given to them from their ſeveral Synods or Presbyteries, claſs the Matters therein contained, and prepare Overtures thereupon to the Aſſembly, and receive in any Accounts that ſhall be given them of the State of the Church in the North *Highlands* and *Iſlands*, particularly concerning the Growth of Popery and Superſtition, to conſider the ſame, and prepare Overtures for preventing and ſuppreſſing thereof. *Ibid.*

Reſolve anent taking in Cauſes. *Ibid.*

His Majeſty's Royal Warrant for 1000 *l. Sterl.* delivered in to the Aſſembly by his Grace the Commiſſioner, read, and ordered to be recorded, 28th *May*, 1764, *Seſſ.* 4*th.*

A Petition from the Presbytery of *Peebles*, relating to Doctor *David Dickſon*, remitted to a Committee to conſider the ſame, and report. *Ibid.*

Upon a Motion that Mr. *John Walker*, Miniſter at *Moffat*, was employed by the Board of Truſtees for managing the Eſtates annexed to the Crown, to viſit the Weſtern *Highlands* and *Iſlands*, in order to report to them concerning the natural Productions, and the State of Agriculture, Manufactures, and Commerce, in thoſe Countries; and that, in performing this, he would be in ſeveral Places which could not be viſited by the Commiſſioners appointed to viſit thoſe Countries by the Aſſembly 1760, he was willing and deſirous of doing everyThing in his Power towards procuring the Church the moſt perfect Information concerning the State of Religion in thoſe Countries, and report to the next Aſſembly, without any Expence upon their Funds; propoſing, that he ſhould be impowered to viſit theſe Parts of the Country, he was impowered and inſtructed accordingly, and the Presbytery of *Lochmaben* appointed to ſupply his Church during his Abſence. *Ibid.*

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An Appeal of the Right Honourable *William* Earl of *Glencairn*, Patron of the Pariſh of *Kilmarnock*, and the Heretors, Elders, and Heads of Families, from a Sentence of the Preſbytery of *Irvine*, to the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, refuſing to tranſport Mr. *William Lindſay*, Miniſter of the Pariſh of *Cumbray*, from ſaid Pariſh, to the ſecond Miniſter's Charge of *Kilmarnock*, and the ſaid Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*'s Reference to this Aſſembly, heard. The General Aſſembly reverſed the Sentence of the Presbytery of *Irvine*, ſuſtained the Reaſons for the Tranſportation of Mr. *Lindſay* from *Cumbray* to the Pariſh of *Kilmarnock*; and accordingly tranſported the ſaid Mr. *Lindſay* from *Cumbray* to *Kilmarnock*, and appointed the Presbytery of *Irvine* to admit Mr. *Lindſay* Miniſter of *Kilmarnock* betwixt and the 17th Day of *July* next. *Ibid.*

An Appeal *John Lindſay*, Conveener of the Trades of *Edinburgh*, and others, againſt three Sentences of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweedale*, in a Cauſe brought before them, concerning a Preſentation granted by the Magiſtrates and Town-council of *Edinburgh* to Mr. *John Dryſdale* Miniſter at *Kirkliſton*, to be one of the Miniſters of *Edinburgh*, and of the *Lady Yeſter*'s Church there, heard, and the Conſideration thereof delayed till To-morrow. 29th *May*, 1764, *Seſſ. 5th.*

The Appeal of Conveener *Lindſay*, and others, from three Sentences of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweedale* (mentioned in Yeſterday's Minute) called, and the Sentences of the ſaid Synod affirmed, 30th *May*, 1764, *Seſſ. 6th.*

An Appeal of the Magiſtrates and Town-council of *Edinburgh*, Patrons, and others, Callers of the ſaid Mr. *John Dryſdale*, againſt ſundry Interlocutors of the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, and for their not proceeding on the 17th *May* to moderate in a Call to the ſaid Mr. *John Dryſdale*, according to an Appointment of the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, being heard, the General Aſſembly reverſed the ſaid Interlocutors, ſuſtained the Preſentation and Call to Mr. *Dryſdale*, and appointed the Presbytery of *Edinburgh* to name Commiſſioners to lay the ſaid Preſentation and Call before the Presbytery of *Linlithgow*, and proſecute the Tranſlation of Mr. *Dryſdale*, and to report to the General Aſſembly on *Friday* next, concerning their having named Commiſſioners; and, upon a Sentence of Tranſlation being paſt by the Presbytery of *Linlithgow*, appointed the Presbytery of *Edinburgh* to proceed to the Admiſſion of Mr. *Dryſdale* to *Edinburgh* with all convenient Speed, according to the Rules of the Church, and impowered the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, at their Meeting in *Auguſt* next, to receive any Reference or Appeal that might be made to them concerning this Cauſe, and to judge and finally determine therein. *Ibid.*

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A Committee appointed to reviſe the Synod Books of *Galloway*, *Sutherland*, and *Caithneſs*, 31ſt *May*, 1764, *Seſſ.* 7*th*.

An Overture from the Presbytery of *Haddington*, with relation to the Chaplain of the Caſtle of *Edinburgh*, together with an Opinion of the Committee for Overtures thereon, read, and the Conſideration thereof delayed till To-morrow. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee on the public Accompts was ordered to be produced To-morrow, to ly on the Clerk's Table till an After-diet. *Ibid.*

An Appeal of five of the Kirk Seſſions of *Glaſgow*, againſt a Sentence of the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, whereby the ſaid Synod had reverſed a Sentence of the Presbytery of *Glaſgow*, refuſing to ſuſtain a Preſentation granted by the Magiſtrates and Town-council of *Glaſgow*, to Mr. *George Bannatyne*, Miniſter of the Goſpel at *Craigie*, to be one of the Miniſters of *Glaſgow*, and of the *Wynd* Church there, being heard, the General Aſſembly affirmed the ſaid Sentence of the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, and ſuſtained the Preſentation of the Magiſtrates and Town-council of *Glaſgow* to the ſaid Mr. *George Bannatyne*. *Ibid.*

The Reference from the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, anent the ſaid Mr. *George Bannatyne*, referred till To-morrow, and a Committee appointed to prepare an Overture on ſaid Reference. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Viſitors of the Commiſſion-book given in and read, and the Commiſſion's Conduct approven of. The Aſſembly's Thanks given from the Chair to the Moderator of the Commiſſion, for their Faithfulneſs and Diligence in the Affairs committed to them, and their Book ordered to be atteſted, *June* 1ſt, 1764, *Seſſ.* 8*th*.

Another Part of the Report of the Viſitors, relating to Applications for a Share of the public Money, and a State of the public Funds, and Debts thereon, was given in, and ordered to ly on the Table till To-morrow. *Ibid.*

The ſeveral Synods appointed to meet, and give in Liſts to the Clerk of the Nominators of the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

The Accompts of the Procurator and Agent for the Church, with the Report of the Committee on the public Accompts thereon, brought in, and ordered to ly on the Table till another Diet. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Presbytery of *Edinburgh* called for, given in, and read, bearing, that they had met, and named Commiſſioners for the Tranſportation of Mr. *Dryſdale*, and the ſame ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

There was given in a Letter of Thanks to the Aſſembly from the Corporation of the City of *Philadelphia*, for the charitable Donation of 1284 *l.* 4*s.* 11 *d. Sterling*, tranſmitted them at different Times by the Aſſembly of the Church of *Scotland*, for the Relief of poor and diſtreſſed Presbyterian Miniſters, and of their Widows and Children; which Letter was read, and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee appointed to conſider the Reference from the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, anent the Method of moderating in a Call to Mr. *Bannatyne*, and preparing an Overture thereon, being called for, was produced, and read; and, with ſome Amendments, agreed to without a Vote. The General Aſſembly therefore found the Preſentation given by the Magiſtrates and Town-council of *Glaſgow*, joined with the Petition of thoſe who had rented Seats in the *Wynd* Church, ſufficient to found a Proceſs of Tranſlation before the Presbytery of *Air*, in order to have Mr. *Bannatyne* removed from his preſent Charge to the ſaid *Wynd* Church; and appointed the Presbytery of *Glaſgow* to meet on *Wedneſday* the 20th of *June* current, and at that Meeting, without further Delay, to name Commiſſioners to proſecute Mr. *Bannatyne*'s Tranſlation, in order to his being ſettled Miniſter of ſaid *Wynd* Church of *Glaſgow*, with all convenient Speed: And in caſe any Queſtions ſhould ariſe with regard to ſaid Tranſlation, they impowered the Commiſſion to receive any Reference or Appeal thereanent, and to judge, and finally determine therein. *Ibid.*

The Overture from the Presbytery of *Haddington*, anent the Chaplain of the Caſtle of *Edinburgh*, together with the Opinion of the Committee for Overtures thereon, being read and reaſoned on, the Overture was diſmiſſed. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to conſider the Reference from the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, anent Mr. *Alexander Simpſon*. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to conſider a Petition of the Presbytery of *Dunfermline*, craving the Aſſembly's Advice and Directions, anent a Clauſe in a Deed of Mortification by Sir *Henry Wardlaw* to four Widows. *Ibid.*

The Clerk appointed to tranſmit an Extract of the Sentence of Aſſembly, anent the Settlement of the *Wynd* Church of *Glaſgow*, to the Moderator of the Presbytery of *Glaſgow*, and the Moderator ordered to call a Meeting of the foreſaid Presbytery, to be held upon the 20th Day of *June* current, for the Purpoſe contained in the ſaid Sentence, 2d *June*, 1764, *Seſſ.* 9*th*.

A Petition of the Presbytery of *Fordyce*, craving a Collection through the Church of *Scotland*, for the Behoof of the *Enzie*, in the County of *Banff*, granted, and a Committee appointed to draw up an Act thereanent, and to report the ſame to the Aſſembly on *Monday*. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Truſtees for managing the Fund for a Proviſion to Miniſters Widows, *&c.* containing a State of the Fund under their Management, and an Account of their Proceedings ſince laſt Aſſembly, produced, approven of, and ordered to be recorded in the ſeparate Regiſter kept for that Purpoſe, and the Thanks of the Houſe given to the Truſtees for their Care in managing the ſaid Fund. *Ibid.*

Upon

Upon an Overture from the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*, concerning the proper Reparation of Churches, and rendering them more commodious, a Committee was appointed to conſider and prepare an Overture thereanent; as alſo to take under their Conſiderarion, a Plan for Manſes, Churches, and School-houſes, and to report to the Commiſſion, or the next Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

A Petition of the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, craving a Collection to be made in ſuch Pariſhes as had been hitherto deficient, granted. *Ibid.*

The Committee appointed to conſider the Petition of the Preſbytery of *Peebles*, anent Doctor *David Dickſon*, not being ready, the Conſideration of ſaid Petition referred to the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

Act approving of the Accompt of Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, his Intromiſſions with his Majeſty's Allowance for defraying the public Charges of the Church for *Ladyday*, *Midſummer*, *Michaelmaſs*, and *Chriſtmaſs* 1763, and appointing that the Balance of 289 *l.* 14 *s.* 8 *d.* Halfpenny *Sterling*, in his Hands, be charged in his next Accompt. *Ibid.*

Act approving of the Accompt of *James Edmonſton*, Agent for the Church, and Sub-clerk to the General Aſſembly, and appointing that he have Credit in his next Accompt for the Balance of 16 *l.* 12 *s.* 6 *d.* Halfpenny *Sterling*. *Ibid.*

An Application of Mr. *Robert Thomſon* Miniſter at *Killearn*, with an Accompt of the Expence of carrying on the new Erection of the Pariſh of *Saddle* and *Skipneſs*, in *Kintyre*, and a Recommendation from the Presbytery of *Kintyre* in his Favour, delayed till *Monday*. *Ibid.*

The Lawiers, Members of Aſſembly, were asked to give their Advice and Aſſiſtance in Council, and at the Bar, in the ſeveral Caſes recommended by the Committee, which they readily agreed to, and thereupon received the Thanks of the Houſe. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee named to conſider the Applications for a Share of the public Money, given in and read, together with the Procurator's Opinion thereon, and laying before the Aſſembly a State of the public Fund of the Church, and of the Amount of the Debt, the firſt Part of the Report, *viz.* concerning Petitions tranſmitted; the Aſſembly appointed the following Perſons to be Creditors on the public Fund for the Sums after-mentioned, to become due to them, after the Debts already contracted upon the Funds are cleared, *viz.* Mr. *Archibald Smith* at *Fintray*, a Sum not exceeding 20 *l.* Mr. *Robert Lumſden* at *Auchindore*, a Sum not exceeding 20 *l.* in caſe the Procurator is of Opinion his Grounds of Plea are well founded, Mr. *Algernoon Gordon*, a Sum not exceeding 10 *l.* towards defraying the Expence of Proceſs, in caſe the Heretors don't compleat his Manſe, Mr. *Joſeph Monro*

Monro, the Sum of 10*l.* in caſe the Expence of his Proceſs be ſo much. *Ibid.*

The Perſons appointed as Nominators of the Commiſſion, appointed to give in the Names to the Clerk on *Monday* Morning at nine o'Clock, at the Society Hall. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Glaſgow* atteſted. *Ibid.*

Upon the Report of the Committee, appointed to conſider the Reference from the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, anent Mr. *Alexander Simpſon*, the ſame was referred to the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

The Committee to be named for reviſing the Minutes of this Aſſembly, appointed to conſider of a Method for the right diſtributing of Caſes relating to Affairs before the Aſſembly, and to report to the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to conſider the Reference from the Synod of *Fife*, and Memorial for the Town of *Kirkcaldy*, anent the ſecond Charge of *Kirkcaldy*, and to report concerning the ſame to the next General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

An Appeal of *Alexander* Earl of *Galloway*, and the other Tutors of his Grace *George James* Duke of *Hamilton* and *Brandon*, Patron of the Pariſh of *Shots*, againſt a Sentence of the Presbytery of *Hamilton*, refuſing to proceed to the Settlement of Mr. *Laurence Wells*, Preſentee, and referring the Cauſe to the Synod, and from a Reference of the ſame by the Synod to this Aſſembly, being heard, the General Aſſembly ſuſtained the Preſentation and Call to Mr. *Laurence Wells*, and appointed the Presbytery of *Hamilton* to proceed to his Trials and Settlement, as Miniſter of the Pariſh of *Shots*, with all convenient Speed, according to the Rules of the Church. *Ibid.*

A Letter from the Right Honourable the Earl of *Sandwich*, one of his Majeſty's principal Secretaries of State, to the Moderator of this Aſſembly, read, acknowledging the Receipt of the Aſſembly's Letter to the King, and ordered to be recorded, 4th *June*, 1764, *Seſſ. ult.*

An Overture from the Presbytery of *Glaſgow*, concerning the Practice of admitting Students as Students of Divinity, while attending the Study of Philoſophy, having been conſidered by the Committee for Overtures, they found the Affair of greater Weight, and more involved in Circumſtances, than to admit of their bringing in at preſent a proper Overture upon the Subject; but that the Profeſſors in the Univerſities had agreed to correſpond on this matter, and endeavour to prepare an Overture to be laid before next Aſſembly; the ſame was accordingly delayed. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Viſitors of the Royal Bounty Regiſter given in, and read, the Conduct of the Managers approven of, and their Book ordered to be atteſted. *Ibid.*

Four Pounds *Sterling* granted as a Viaticum to Mr. *Thomas Miller*, Miniſter at *Lerwick*, and the like Sum to Mr. *Patrick Mair*, Miniſter at *Braſſee*. *Ibid.*

Reſolved

Reſolved that no further Viaticums ſhall be given till the Debts at preſent upon the public Funds are paid off. *Ibid.*

The Committee appointed for conſidering the Overture concerning the Reparation of Churches, &c. appointed to conſider a Propoſal for applying his Majeſty's Bounty to the Purpoſe of new Erections of Pariſhes, and to report to the next General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

All future Applications for a Share of the Royal Bounty, appointed to ly on the Table for the Space of two Months. *Ibid.*

The Nominators of the Commiſſion gave in their Report. *Ibid.*

The Petition of the Presbytery of *Dornoch*, for a Miſſionary in the Pariſhes of *Creich* and *Kincardine* remitted to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty. *Ibid.*

The Petition of the Presbytery of *Tain*, to the ſame Purpoſe with the foregoing, alſo remitted to the Committee. *Ibid.*

The Procurator and Agent for the Church authoriſed to proſecute the Executors of the deceaſt *William Roſs*, for Recovery of the Money collected for the Education of the Students having the *Gaelick* Language, or to tranſact that Matter with the ſaid *William Roſs*'s Executors, by the Advice and Direction of a Committee named for that Purpoſe; and they are appointed to correſpond with the Committees at *Edinburgh* and *Glaſgow*, appointed by former Aſſemblies for the Management and Application of the Money collected for the Purpoſe above-mentioned. A Recommendation to the Pariſhes that have not made the above Collection, to do it without Delay, and the ſeveral Synods appointed to report, to the next Aſſembly, ſuch Pariſhes as ſhall ſtill be deficient. *Ibid.*

Upon a Petition from Mr. *Kenneth Moriſon*, Student of Divinity, having the *Gaelick* Language, craving Payment of 30*l. Sterling* Money, as two Years Fees allotted him as Burſar for the Presbytery of *Lewis*, to enable him to proſecute his Studies, the General Aſſembly ordered Payment to the ſaid Mr. *Kenneth Moriſon* out of the public Fund of the Church; and alſo others in the like Situation to have what is due to them of their Burſary, paid out of the ſaid Fund, upon his and their granting to the Procurator, Aſſignations of their Claim upon the Fund raiſed by the Collections for the educating of Students having the *Gaelick* Language. *Ibid.*

The Appeal of Mr. *Andrew Duncanſon*, Miniſter at *Roſeneath*, from a Sentence of the Presbytery of *Dunbarton*, referred to the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

All Cauſes before this Aſſembly, and not diſcuſſed by them, referred to the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Merſe* and *Teviotdale* atteſted. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Perth* and *Stirling* atteſted. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Fife* not to be atteſted, till ſigned by the Moderator. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Sutherland* atteſted. *Ibid.*

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The Synod Books of *Orkney*, *Lothian*, *Dumfries*, *Argyle*, *Angus*, *Aberdeen*, *Murray*, *Ross*, *Genelg*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, absent; Excuses sustained. *Ibid.*

The Committee on the Window Tax renewed, with the same Powers as formerly; and in case any Minister should find himself distressed, the Moderator of the Committee is impowered, upon Notice given him, to call a Meeting of the Committee to give him Advice. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee, on the Petition of the Presbytery of *Duntermline*, agreed to. *Ibid.*

Upon the Petition of Mr. *Robert Thomson*, the Clerk of Assembly appointed to write to the Presbytery of *Kintyre*, to send up a State of that Matter to next Assembly. *Ibid.*

The Draught of the Act for a Collection for the *Enzie*, which was appointed to be made out by a Committee, given in, and approved of. *Ibid.*

List of Probationers produced, and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

Act appointing the next Meeting of the Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to revise the Minutes of this Assembly's Proceedings, at this and all other Diets thereof, and to pitch upon such of the Acts of this Assembly as are to be standing Rules as are of public Use, in order to their being printed. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speech to the Assembly, and his Majesty's Commissioner. *Ibid.*

The Lord Commissioner's Speech in Return thereto, and then the Assembly concluded. *Ibid.*

FINIS.

BRITISH MUSEUM